

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown.

1. (Currently amended) A method for protecting submerged or partially submerged marine surfaces from bio-fouling without external electrical power comprising:

directly spraying the surface to be protected with a zinc or zinc based alloy coating produced by an electric arc, ~~twin wire combustion wire or combustion powder~~ thermal spray process wherein one wire is zinc wire and a second wire is zinc or a zinc alloy to thereby obtain a protective coating of said zinc or zinc based alloy on said surface to provide protection to said surface.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the coating is free of tributyltin.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the surface is a metal member selected from the group consisting of carbon steel, aluminum, stainless steel, brass, copper, copper-nickel, monel, lead and bronze.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the surface is fiberglass, plastic, composites, or wood.

7. (Currently Amended) The method for protecting submerged or partially submerged metal marine surfaces without external electrical power comprised of washing the surface to be protected with water to remove any soluble salts and biomass, blasting the metal surface to white metal, selecting [(a)] one metal wire containing zinc [(or)] and a second wire of zinc or a zinc alloy compatible with said surface, carrying out a an electric arc, ~~combustion-wire,~~ or ~~combustion-powder~~ twin wire thermal spray process to apply a zinc or zinc based coating to said surface to coat said surface with a zinc based coating and thereby achieve protection against bio-fouling.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) The method according to claim 7 further comprising applying multiple layers by thermal spray to obtain a uniform coverage by the zinc or zinc based alloy on the said surface.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 4 further comprising optionally adding a sealer on top of the thermal spray coating.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein a thermal spray metallized coating is deposited and composed of 50-100% zinc and wherein the amount of zinc in said coating depends on the surfaces to be coated.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9 wherein the zinc metal coating may additionally contain an element selected from the group consisting of copper, carbon, tin, nickel, aluminum, magnesium and mixtures thereof.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for cathodically protecting surfaces of submerged or partially submerged metallic marine structures which are to be placed underwater comprising, without external electrical power, thermally spraying said surfaces by an electric arc, twin wire system with a zinc wire and a second wire of zinc or with a zinc or zinc based alloy coating to thereby obtain a protective coating on marine structures.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said marine structure is the hull of a ship, ship hardware, buoys, locks, dam, off-shore oil rigs, piers, wharfs, bulk heads, pipelines and sea water intakes.

15. (Previously Presented) A marine structure which when in use is submerged or partially submerged in water having been coated by the method according to claim 1.

16. (Previously Presented) A submerged or partially submerged marine structure that has been coated according to the method of claim 13.

17. (Original) A propeller having been coated by the method of claim 1.

18. (Previously Presented) A submerged or partially submerged marine surface coated with the method according to claim 1.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for the protection of submerged or partially submerged marine surfaces from bio-fouling, to simultaneously provide barrier corrosion protection and cathodic protection to said surfaces without external electric power comprising:

directly spraying said surfaces to be protected with a zinc or zinc based alloy coating produced by an electric arc, ~~combustion wire or combustion powder twin wire~~ thermal spray process where at least one wire is 100% zinc, to thereby obtain a protective coating of a zinc or zinc based alloy on said surfaces,

wherein said protective coating is 50-100% zinc and wherein the amount of zinc in said coating depends on the surface to be coated, and

when the coating is a zinc based alloy wherein the alloy may additionally contain an element selected from the group consisting of carbon, copper, tin, nickel, aluminum, magnesium and mixtures thereof.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19 where the marine surface to be protected is selected from the group consisting of carbon steel, aluminum, stainless steel, brass, copper, copper-nickel, monel, lead and bronze.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19 where the marine surface to be protected is fiberglass, plastic, composites or wood.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) A marine structure which when in use is submerged or partially submerged in water having been coated by the method according to claim 19.

24. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said second wire is zinc to thereby produce a 100% zinc coating on said marine surfaces.

25. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein said marine surfaces are on a propeller.

26. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said marine surfaces are on a propeller.

27. (New) The method according to claim 1 wherein said second wire is a zinc-copper alloy.